

T-741
Old Methodist Protestant Parsonage
St. Michaels
Private

c. 1872

The old Methodist Protestant parsonage, also known as the Frank S. Orem house, is a distinctive two-and-a-half story ell-shaped frame dwelling that defines the west end of West Chestnut Street. The projecting pavilion is a strong architectural element, and the two-story porch that fills the front corner to shelter the front entrance is a common features for St. Michaels houses. In its well preserved condition the old parsonage contributes significantly to the streetscape.

The trustees of the Methodist Protestant church of St. Michaels acquired this West Chestnut Street lot from Mary L. and William P. L. Shaeffer of Philadelphia in 1871, and it is assumed the church financed the construction of this dwelling shortly afterwards for their minister's use. The St. Michaels & Bayside Methodist Protestant church sold the property sixteen years later for \$600 to Frank S. Orem.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. T-741

Magi No.

DOE ___yes ___no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic OLD METHODIST PROTESTANT PARSONAGE, FRANK S. OREM HOUSE

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 115 West Chestnut Street ___ not for publication

city, town St. Michaels ___ vicinity of congressional district Talbot

state Maryland county Talbot

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
___ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	___ no	___ military	___ other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Clerk of Court liber 385

street & number Talbot County Courthouse folio 557

city, town Easton state MD 21601

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. T-741

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The old Methodist Protestant parsonage is located at 115 West Chestnut Street on the western edge of St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland. The two-and-a-half story frame house faces south with the principal gable oriented on an east/west axis.

Built around 1875, the two-and-a-half story, ell-shaped frame dwelling is supported by a low brick foundation, and it is sheathed by a layer of asbestos shingles. The steeply pitched roof is covered with asphalt shingles. A shorter two-story service wing extends to the rear.

The south (main) elevation is an asymmetrical three-bay facade with a recessed entrance wall sheltered by a two-story chamfered post porch. Surviving on each floor on sawn baluster handrails and decorative corner brackets. The entrance is filled with a partially glazed door, and a two-over-two sash window fills the adjacent bay to the east. West of the front door is a projecting two-story pavilion filled with paired two-over-two sash windows. A smaller two-over-two sash window pierces the upper gable to light the attic.

The interior was not seen.

8. Significance

Survey No. T-741

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The old Methodist Protestant parsonage, also known as the Frank S. Orem house, is a distinctive two-and-a-half story ell-shaped frame house that defines the west end of West Chestnut Street. The projecting pavilion is a strong architectural element, and the two-story porch that fills the front corner to shelter the entrance is a common feature for St. Michaels. In its well preserved condition the old Methodist Protestant parsonage contributes significantly to the streetscape.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

The trustees of the Methodist Protestant church of St. Michaels acquired this West Chestnut Street lot from Mary L. and William P. L. Shaeffer of Philadelphia in 1871, and it is assumed the church financed the construction of this dwelling shortly afterwards for their minister's use. The St. Michaels & Bayside Methodist Protestant church sold the lot sixteen years later for \$600 to Frank S. Orem.(111/39) Due to the relatively low price for the time and the late nineteenth century character of the front block, Frank Orem could have substantially enlarged the house after his purchase of the property in 1887.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. T-741

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian

organization Historic St. Michaels-Bay Hund. date 11/15/89

street & number telephone

city or town St. Michaels state Md 21663

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

T-741

Old Methodist Protestant Parsonage
115 WEST CHESTNUT STREET

YEAR: 1963 VOL: 385 PAGE: 557

FROM: Doris M. Worm

TO : J. Orem Gardner and Dorothy B. Gardner

NOTES: Begins at the SW corner of Samuel Blades (formerly Sallie Leeke); run W 72 feet with Chestnut Street to Herman Nixdorf (formerly John T. Caulk); with Caulk NW 120 feet to an Alley; with the Alley NE 72 feet to Blades; with Blades SE 120 feet to the beginning.

Conveyed to Worm by Gardners 1963, 385/555 (Clearance)

Conveyed to Gardner by Killen 1934, 232/440.

YEAR: 1934 VOL: 232 PAGE: 440

FROM: Edna V. Killen

TO : Katie O. Gardner, J. Howell Gardner and John Orem Gardner

NOTES: Same description. (Clearance)

Conveyed to Killen by Katie O. & J. Howell Gardner 1934, 232/439. (Clearance)

Conveyed to Katie O. Gardner by Frank S. Orem 1928, 213/340.

YEAR: 1928 VOL: 213 PAGE: 340

FROM: Frank S. Orem, widower

TO : Katie O. Gardner

NOTES: Same description.

Conveyed to Frank S. Orem by Trustees of St. Michaels and Bayside Protestant Methodist Church 1887, 111/39.

YEAR: 1887 VOL: 111 PAGE: 39

FROM: Trustees of St. Michaels & Bayside Meth. Prot. Church of TC

TO : Frank S. Orem

NOTES: \$600. The lot is 72 feet by 120 feet, between Sallie Leeke and John T. Caulk.

"Same lot obtained by the Trustees from Wm. P. L. Shaffer and known since as the Methodist Protestant Parsonage 1871, 77/267.

YEAR: 1871 VOL: 77 PAGE: 267

FROM: Mary L. Shaeffer and Wm. P. L. Shaeffer (of Philadelphia)

TO : Trustees of M P Church

NOTES: The lot is 72 feet by 120 feet, between Mary Tenant and Sarah Kirby. The deed refers to the "Parsonage Alley" located behind the lot. This is another name used for Grace Street or even Thompson' Alley. James Benson bought 12 feet on the west side of this lot from Samuel Grace for an alley running from Chestnut to Grace Street in 1852. From the metes and bounds of the deed, the "Parsonage Alley" ran east and west.

YEAR: 1866 VOL: 73 PAGE: 27
FROM: James Benson and Marianna Benson
TO : William P. L. Shaffer
NOTES: \$800. Lot is 72 feet by 120 feet, between John Cole and Sarah Kirby. Conveyed to James Benson by John Dunning 1846, 60/156. There is a discrepancy here. According to the 1846 deed, James Benson only bought 56 feet on Chestnut Street. Even if the 12 foot alley is added to this lot, the footage is still short!

YEAR: 1852 VOL: 64 PAGE: 498
FROM: Samuel Grace and Eliza H. Grace
TO : James Benson
NOTES: \$20. An alley, 12 feet wide between the lot owned by Benson and one owned by James Townsend. Extends from Chestnut Street to a "street opened by Samuel Grace". This is now Grace Street, but at the time it was opened it was an extension of what was called "Bruff's Alley" - a name also applied to Thompson Street!

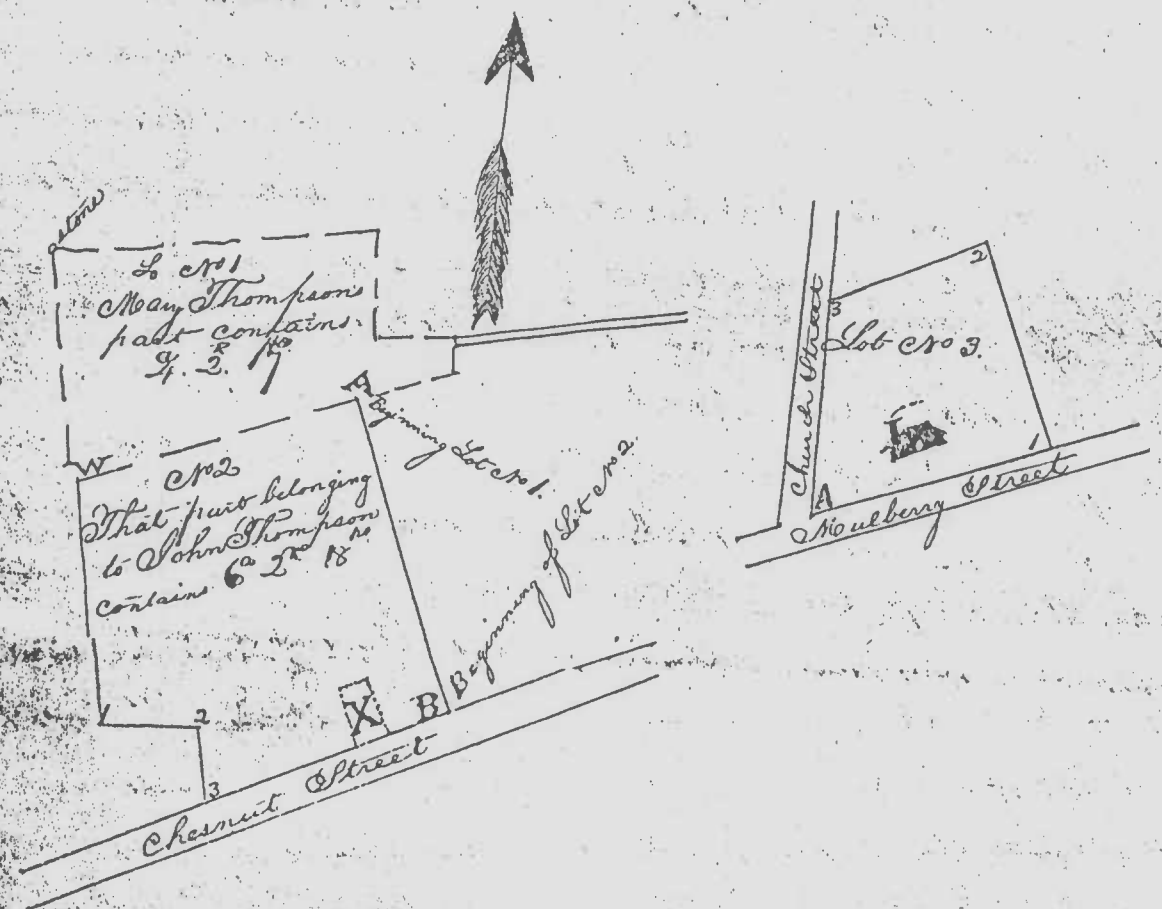
YEAR: 1846 VOL: 60 PAGE: 156
FROM: John Dunning
TO : James Benson
NOTES: This lot is 56 feet wide on Chestnut by 120 feet deep. Said to lie between Thomas Bruff of John and Henry Burrows. It has an alley 12 feet wide between it and Burrows. The lot is referred-to as "Lot number 6 on Chestnut Street."
Part of the land bought by Dunning from the heirs of John Thompson 1844, 58/290.

YEAR: 1844 VOL: 58 PAGE: 290
FROM: Samuel Hambleton, Jr., Trustee PRICE: *
TO: John Dunning
NOTES *The property was in two parcels: #1. land of Mary Thompson, 4+ acres at \$177.34; #2. land of John Thompson, 6+ acres at \$370.30. This was a court-ordered sale. For location see attached copy from the Equity Court Record. It included all the back land from the north side of Thompson Street to the Canton Lane. The lot concerned-with here was on John Thompson's parcel, which he inherited under the will of James Braddock in 1782. The land was part of "Chance" and "Janes Progress", this lot being part of "Chance".

YEAR: 1732 VOL: PL#8 PAGE: 688
FROM: Proprietor PRICE:
TO: Edward Elliott
NOTES This is a resurvey and consolidation of Edward Elliott's holdings. It was called "Chance" and included "Taylor and Janes Discovery" patented in 1695 to George Taylor. "T & J Discovery" passed by inheritance to James Hewes who sold it to George Gleave in 1775 (20/474). Bought by James Braddock in 1775-76 (20/484, 529), it went to John Thompson by Braddock's will in 1782.

and Mary Thompson dec'd or thos claiming by, through or under them or either of them.
 Samuel Hambleton Jr. Esq. Trustee
 To A. Graham Esq.
 At line 25, Adv. Public sale real Estate of Thompson 3 pgs. Lit #3.75
 I do hereby Certify that the annexed advertisement of the sale of John and Mary Thompson Land has been published for three successive weeks in the Eastern Gazette.
 A. Graham

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That County to wit: I do hereby certify that by the direction of Samuel Hambleton Jr. Esq. Trustee for the sale of Mary Thompson and John Thompson real estate I have surveyed and laid down the same as follows Lot No 1 is Mary Thompsons Land as per Deed from Joseph Thompson bearing date 9th of April 1791 Bounded as follows Beginning at the corner of the plot at the corner of Thomas Bruffs lot and from thence runs with Bruffs lot N 68° E 10 1/2 perches or 6 3/4 W 34 perches to an alley laid out as right of way from this street to the main street of the Town of St Michaels this alley bears N 74 1/2° E and is 12 feet wide and from thence on N 67 1/2° W 1 perches to Sparkes lot and with the same S 82° W 34 perches or 7° W 11 perches to the Cantons Lands, and with the same S 82° W 34 perches



1877 LAKE, GRIFING, AND STEVENSON ATLAS



T-741
OLD METHODIST PROTESTANT
PARSONAGE
St. Michaels, MD Quadrangle
1942



T-741

Old Methodist Protestant Parsonage

St. Michaels, Talbot County, MD

Southeast elevation

11/89, Paul Touart, photographer

Negative/Md Historical Trust